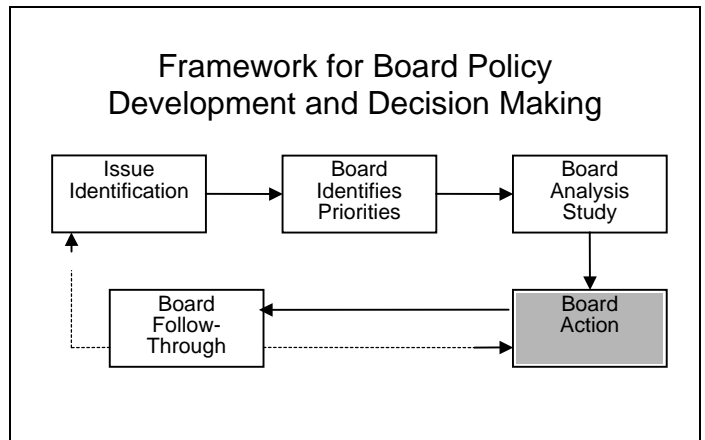


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

April 19, 2007



- Agenda Item:** Request for Accredited Nonpublic School to Add a Grade
- Iowa Goal:** 2. All K-12 students will achieve at high levels, prepared for success beyond high school.
- Equity Impact Statement:** 281 IAC 12.5(8) requires that each school and school district incorporate multicultural and gender fair goals for the educational program into its comprehensive school improvement plan.
- Presenter:** Pamela Pfitzenmaier, Ph.D., Administrator  
Division of PK-12 Education
- Attachments:** 1
- Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board approve the request to expand accreditation to grades kindergarten through grade 7 from its current kindergarten through grade 6 status.
- Background:** Concordia Lutheran School, in Storm Lake, is currently accredited as kindergarten through grade 6. Documentation and an on-site visit by a school improvement consultant from the Department confirmed the school to be in compliance with the accreditation standards as identified in 281—IAC Chapter 12.
- The following has been verified:
- The school has hired an appropriately licensed teacher.
  - The school is teaching required curriculum in grades K-7 as verified through an examination of curriculum compared to the elements required in all content areas in 281—IAC 12.5(2) through 281—IAC 12.5(3)(i).
  - The school has standards and grade level benchmarks for all grades K-7.

DATE: March 23, 2007

TO: Members, State Board of Education

FROM: Judy Jeffrey, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Request for Accredited Nonpublic School to Add a Grade

Please consider this request that Concordia Lutheran School in Storm Lake, Iowa, be approved to expand accreditation to grades kindergarten through grade 7 from its current kindergarten through grade 6 status. The school is considering the possibility of adding 8<sup>th</sup> grade at a future time.

Julie Melcher, School Improvement Consultant, visited the school on February 21, 2007, and has verified the following:

- The school has hired an appropriately licensed teacher.
- The school is teaching required curriculum in grades K-7 as verified through an examination of curriculum compared to the elements required in all content areas in 281—IAC 12.5(2) through 281—IAC 12.5(3)(i).
- The school has standards and grade level benchmarks for all grades K-7.

During the February 21 school visit, Julie met with the school's principal, on-site leader, and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. All points of nonpublic school accreditation have been verified.

cc: Pam Pfitzenmaier, Division Administrator  
Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator